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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/539,836	06/17/2005	Shigeharu Suzuki	050397	5007
23850 7	590 03/23/2006		EXAMINER	
ARMSTRONG, KRATZ, QUINTOS, HANSON & BROOKS, LLP			NGUYEN, CHAU N	
1725 K STREET, NW SUITE 1000 WASHINGTON, DC 20006			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2831	

DATE MAILED: 03/23/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary 10/539,836 SUZUKI ET AL. Examiner								
Examiner	·	Application No.	Applicant(s)					
Chau N. Nguyen Chau N. September of the correspondence addrocked the chaupter of the chaupte		10/539,836	SUZUKI ET AL.					
The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address — Period for Repty A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION. Extensives of time may be available under the provision of 37 CFR 11360, in no event however, may steply be timely filed after SX (6) MONTHS from the maining date of this communication, or over the vertice and the step of the communication of 37 CFR 11360, in no event however, may steply be timely filed after SX (6) MONTHS from the maining date of this communication, after the mailing date of this communication, or shall be supplied and became ABANDANDE (35 U.S. C. § 133). Any reply received by the flow of overended period for rejoy the 1/y status, cause be applied and become ABANDANDE (35 U.S. C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office laser than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any sense of the communication of the maining date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any sense of the communication. 1 □ Responsive to communication(s) filed on	Office Action Summary	Examiner	Art Unit					
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DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

- 1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:
 - (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.
- 2. This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).
- 3. Claims 1-3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Brown (2,992,292) in view of Newton et al. (6,173,100).

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Brown discloses an electric wire (Figures 2 and 4-6) comprising an electrically conductive core wire; a coating consisting of synthetic resin for coating the core wire; a mark formed on a part of an outer surface of the coating by allowing a coloring agent to adhere to the part; and a coating layer formed on the mark and the outer surface of the coating, and the coating layer coating the mark.

Brown does not disclose the coating layer consisting of polyvinylalcohol.

Newton et al. discloses a cable (Figure 17) comprising a coating layer 12

consisting of polyvinylalcohol. It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art to use polyvinylalcohol for the coating layer of Brown to prevent water from entering to the mark since it is taught by Newton et al. that polyvinylalcohol is a superabsorbent polymer.

Re claims 2 and 3, it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art to choose suitable thickness for the coating layer of Brown to meet the specific use of the resulting wire since a thicker layer would further protect the core wire and since it has been held that where the general conditions of a claim are disclosed in the prior art, discovering the optimum or workable ranges involves only routine skill in the art. *In re Aller*, 105 USPQ 233.

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4. Claims 4-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Brown in view of Itoh et al. (2003/0194573).

Brown discloses the invention substantially as claimed except for the coating layer consisting of ethylene-vinylalcohol. Itoh et al. discloses a multilayer structure comprising a polymer layer consisting of ethylene-vinylalcohol. It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art to use ethylene-vinylalcohol for the coating layer of Brown since ethylene-vinylalcohol is a material having dimensional stability, heat resistance and mechanical strength as taught by Itoh et al. ([0039]).

Re claims 5 and 6, it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art to choose suitable thickness for the coating layer of Brown to meet the specific use of the resulting wire since a thicker layer would further protect the core wire and since it has been held that where the general conditions of a claim are disclosed in the prior art, discovering the optimum or workable ranges involves only routine skill in the art. *In re Aller*, 105 USPQ 233.

Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Chau N. Nguyen whose telephone number is 571-272-1980. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Dean Reichard can be reached on 571-272-2800 ext 31. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Chau N Nguyen Primary Examiner Art Unit 2831

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